

4-2009

# Characteristics of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine, 2006

Maine Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Standards

Steven P. Laundrie

*Maine Department of Labor*, [steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov](mailto:steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov)

Follow this and additional works at: [http://statedocs.maine.gov/bls\\_docs](http://statedocs.maine.gov/bls_docs)

---

## Recommended Citation

Maine Department of Labor; Bureau of Labor Standards; and Laundrie, Steven P., "Characteristics of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine, 2006" (2009). *Labor Standards Documents*. Paper 7.

[http://statedocs.maine.gov/bls\\_docs/7](http://statedocs.maine.gov/bls_docs/7)

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the Labor at Maine State Documents. It has been accepted for inclusion in Labor Standards Documents by an authorized administrator of Maine State Documents. For more information, please contact [statedocs@maine.gov](mailto:statedocs@maine.gov).



## Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine, 2006

*An Annual Report  
April 2009*

*By: Kim Lim  
and Steven Laundrie*

---

# Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine, 2006 Highlights

There was a 1.45% increase in the annual total count of Workers' Compensation disabling *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports, reported cases in which the employee lost at least one day of work beyond the day of injury or illness), from 13,843 first reports in 2005 to 14,047 in 2006.

- ✓ 46.7% of first reports (6,652) involved employees with less than two years experience with their current employer. 33.7% of first reports (4,472) involved workers with less than one year's experience.
- ✓ 41.4% of first reports (5,821) involved workers of age 45 or older.
- ✓ 35.3% of all first reports (4,961) gave the nature of the injury or illness as sprains, strains, or tears.
- ✓ 26% of all first reports (3,683) listed overexertion of one type or another (lifting, pulling, pushing, etc.) as the event that accounted for the injury or illness.
- ✓ 22.6% of all 2006 first reports (3,171) involved these five occupations, in descending order: hand laborers and freight, stock, and material movers; nursing aides orderlies and attendants; truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer; janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeep cleaners; and construction laborers.
- ✓ 20.8% of first reports (2,775) indicated the back, including lumbar region, as the part of body affected.
- ✓ 20.8% of all first reports (2,927) originated from these five industries, in descending order: general medical and surgical hospitals; elementary and secondary schools; nursing care facilities; supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores; and ship building and repairing.
- ✓ 18.6% of all first reports (2,622) identified bodily motion/position of injured worker as the source of the disabling injury or illness.



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
54 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0054

LAURA A. FORTMAN  
COMMISSIONER

Dear Reader:

One Maine worker injured or made ill on the job is one too many. Completely eliminating occupational injuries and illnesses may sound impossible, but, as Commissioner of Labor for the state of Maine, I am committed to using all available resources to move toward that goal wherever we have jurisdiction. To that end, the Maine Department of Labor not only enforces Maine labor law, but also offers free consultations and training in occupational safety and health. (For more information on these services, call SafetyWorks! at (207- 623-7300.)

Guiding these activities is a large body of data managed by the Research and Statistics Unit (R&S) of the Bureau of Labor Standards. This information comes from several sources, the three principal ones being:

- ◆ *Workers' Compensation Board First Reports of Injury* for claims resulting in one or more days of lost time beyond the day of injury,
- ◆ *U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses*, which samples employers' OSHA 300 logs, and
- ◆ *Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries*, a cooperative program with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics that documents fatalities resulting from on-the-job incidents.

This report, *Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine 2006*, draws on the first of those sources to identify which workers are being injured and where and how they are being hurt at work. In doing this, it provides direction not only to the Bureau of Labor Standards, but also to insurers, occupational safety and health professionals, and others with the goal of reducing the numbers of workplace injuries and illnesses in Maine.

From the same information base as this report, R&S can provide a no-cost profile of a company's workers' compensation claims for the past ten years. R&S can also provide specialized profiles: *i.e.*, tables covering specific occupations, types of injury or illness, industry, event, or combination thereof. (An example appears in Appendix A of this publication.) Drawing on the other two information sources listed above, R&S can provide other specific industry profiles, which can be helpful with day-to-day safety and health decisions in the workplace.

We hope that you find this publication useful, and that you will take advantage of the related services of the Research and Statistics Unit. We ask for your input and comments on this publication and those services, so that they can be improved and made more effective toward the goal of continually reducing workplace injuries and illnesses in Maine. Please call us at (207)623-7900 or e-mail us at [mdol@maine.gov](mailto:mdol@maine.gov)

Sincerely,

Laura A. Fortman  
Commissioner

PHONE: (207) 623-7900

FAX: (207) 287-5292

TTY (HEARING IMPAIRED) 1-800-794-1110  
E-Mail: [Laura.A.Fortman@Maine.gov](mailto:Laura.A.Fortman@Maine.gov)

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in programs, services and employment.



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STANDARDS  
45 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0045

LAURA A. FORTMAN  
COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM A. PEABODY  
Director

# Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine 2006

Kim C. Lim, Occupational Safety & Health Epidemiologist  
Steven P. Laundrie, Statistician III

Material in this publication is in the public domain and may,  
with appropriate credit, be reproduced without permission.

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity employment and programs.  
Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.

Telephone: (207) 623-7900      TTY: (207) 624-6003      Fax: (207) 623-7937

This publication is available at  
[www.maine.gov/labor/labor\\_stats/publications/charwork/index.html](http://www.maine.gov/labor/labor_stats/publications/charwork/index.html)

# CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Background and Definition .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Background .....	1
Definitions .....	2
<b>Summary .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Section 1: Overall Trend of First Reports .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 2: The Most Frequently Reported Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Overview .....	6
Occupation of Injured Worker .....	6
Industry .....	7
Event or Exposure .....	8
Source of Injury or Illness .....	9
Nature of Injury or Illness .....	10
Part of Body Affected .....	11
Age of Injured Worker .....	12
Length of Service of Injured Worker .....	13
<b>Section 3: The Top Five Occupations .....</b>	<b>14</b>
Overview .....	14
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand (SOC 537062) .....	15, 16
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants (SOC 311012) .....	15, 16
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer (SOC 3032) .....	15, 16
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners (SOC 372011) .....	15, 16
Construction Laborers (SOC 472061) .....	15, 16
<b>Section 4: The Top Five Industries .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Overview .....	17
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals (NAICS 622110) .....	18, 19
Elementary and Secondary Schools (NAICS 611110) .....	18, 19
Nursing Care Facilities (NAICS 623110) .....	18, 19
Ship Building and Repairing (NAICS 336611) .....	18, 19
Supermarkets and Other Grocery (Except Convenience) Stores (NAICS 445110) .....	18, 19
<b>Section 5: The Top Five Events or Exposures .....</b>	<b>20</b>
Overview .....	20
Overexertion in Lifting .....	21, 22
Fall to Floor, Walkway, or Other Surface .....	21, 22
Overexertion in Pulling or Pushing Objects .....	21, 22
Overexertion, Unspecified .....	21, 22
Nonclassifiable .....	21, 22
<b>Section 6: The Top Five Sources of Injury or Illness .....</b>	<b>23</b>
Overview .....	23
Bodily Motion/Position of Injured Worker .....	24, 25
Nonclassifiable .....	24, 25
Health Care Patient/Resident of Health Care Facility .....	24, 25
Floor of Building .....	24, 25
Ground .....	24, 25

<b>Section 7: The Top Five Natures.....</b>	<b>26</b>
Overview .....	27, 28
Sprains, Strains and Tears .....	27, 28
Soreness, Pain or Hurt Except Back .....	27, 28
Bruises, Contusions.....	27, 28
Back Pain, Hurt Back.....	27, 28
Cuts and Lacerations.....	27, 28
<b>Appendix A: Work-Related Injury Data Available.....</b>	<b>29</b>
Sample Profile: First Reports of Injury of Health Care Workers (Three-Digit NAICS 31 Codes 621, 622, and 623) for 2006	



# **CAVEAT**

**Occupation and industry data provided in the 2005-2006 reports cannot be compared to any previous year's data because of changes in both the occupational and industrial classification systems.**

Two classification systems used in all previous reports have been changed starting in 2005. Occupations are now classified using the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics revised Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). Industries are now classified using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of the previous Standard Industrial Classification (SIC).

Since both new systems seek to provide more refined classification, there is very limited one-to-one correspondence with the older systems. For example, the revised SOC both “splits” and “lumps” older categories. Where the old system had one category for “truck drivers,” the SOC splits that category into finer detail with such categories as “truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.” On the other hand, the SOC also lumps two old categories, “laborers, non-construction” and “freight, stock, and material handlers NEC” into one, “laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand.”

The NAICS tends mainly to split SIC categories into several more detailed ones, (“department stores” goes to “department stores” and “discount department stores”) but both systems still retain some examples of one-to-one correspondence with the old systems. It should be clear that, where conclusions may depend on inferences about industry or occupation, data organized by the new systems should not be compared with data organized by the old. Comparisons between years 2004 and earlier remain valid, however.

## BACKGROUND AND DEFINITIONS

### Background

Under the authority of Title 26 MRSA § 42-A, the Maine Department of Labor Research and Statistics Unit collects and compiles data on workplace injuries and illnesses. An important source of this information are the Maine Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) *Employer's First Reports of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports) and related paperwork as submitted by employers or their insurers to the WCB. These reports are needed to process claims and meet the requirements of the Workers' Compensation Law. These documents capture a broad range of information about any reported work-related injury or illness. The Research and Statistics Unit codes WCB data about each case of injury or illness resulting in at least one day away from work beyond the day of injury (a disabling case) directly onto the WCB database via on-line connection. At least once a month, WCB data are downloaded to a data warehouse where they are available to respond to specific queries, generally by cross-tabulation with other related information.

This report examines the WCB disabling-case data for the year 2006 in terms of the following eight characteristics of injury or illness: (1) occupation of injured worker, (2) industry, (3) event or exposure, (4) source of injury or illness, (5) nature of injury or illness, (6) part of body affected, (7) age of the injured worker and (8) length of service of the injured worker (all as defined below). The reasons for examining these characteristics are as follows:

1) The analysis provides insights as to the “who” (occupation, age, and length of service of the injured worker), “where” (industry), “how” (event or exposure and source of injury or illness), and “what” (nature of injury or illness and part of body affected) questions about occupational injuries and illnesses sustained by Maine workers in 2006.

2) This report is meant to serve as an example of queries possible with this data source.

Strengths of the WCB data are that each WCB *First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (FROI) contains detailed data about the employee, the employer, and the incident beyond what is used here, such as date and time of injury. General information is in the public domain although the release of employee-specific information must be approved by the WCB. This means that case characteristic information can be generated for an individual company, or groups of companies or of cases, rather than the statewide approach of this report. This report is intended to encourage requests for specific inquiries using the WCB data to improve occupational safety and health in Maine workplaces.

There are certain limitations to such inquiry, including this report, as follows:

- 1) The WCB data are not comparable to data generated by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics *Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses* (SOI) because:
  - a. The definitions of “recordable case” under federal OSHA record keeping rules (used by SOI) and under the WCB are different from one another. Injuries or illnesses that are recordable by WCB standards may not be recordable by OSHA standards and *vice versa*.
  - b. Annual average numbers of employees and total hours worked per employer are not collected by the WCB. This means that incidence rates cannot be produced from the WCB data.

- 2) Workers' Compensation laws vary from state to state, making comparisons among states difficult.
- 3) The consistency of the coding is subject to the individual coder's interpretation.
- 4) Perhaps most importantly, the quality of the data is subject to the quality of answers provided on the first reports. These reports are to be filed within 7 days of an employer learning about a case, and complete information is not always available at that point. Completion/correction is possible, and in some cases required. The "nonclassifiable" category used in this report reflects missing data.
- 5) Lastly, since 1993, only disabling cases have been coded. This means that cases with job transfer or job restriction but no lost time cannot be examined at this time.

## Definitions

The following is an alphabetical list of definitions of terms and abbreviations used in this report.

**Age of injured worker:** the age of the injured worker at the time of injury, calculated from the worker's date of birth and the date of injury.

**Disabling:** resulting in at least one day away from work beyond the day of injury or illness.

**Event or exposure:** the manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted by the source of the injury or illness.

**First report(s):** *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease*, the standard form on which an employer or employer's representative makes initial report to the WCB of an occupational injury or illness affecting one of its workers. **For the purposes of this report, this includes reports of disabling cases only.**

**FROI:** *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease*, see first reports above.

**Industry:** the business in which the injured worker was actually employed at the time of injury or illness.

**Length of service of the injured worker:** the injured worker's length of service with the employer at the time of injury or illness, calculated from date of hire and date of injury or illness. Date of hire is not always available.

**Maine Occupational Research Agenda (MORA):** An occupational safety and health research agenda modeled on the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) and managed by the MORA Steering Committee.

**NAICS:** North American Industry Classification System. A system of classifying industries using a six-digit code indicating the type of activity in which the industry is engaged.

**Nature of injury or illness:** the principal physical characteristic(s) of the injury or illness.

**Nonclassifiable:** insufficient data to allow classification, usually missing data.

**Not elsewhere classifiable (NEC):** not classifiable among other standard classifications.

***Occupation of injured worker:*** the occupation in which the injured worker was actually engaged at the time of injury or illness (this may not be the worker's regular occupation or job class).

***Part of body affected:*** the part(s) of the injured worker's body directly affected by the nature of the injury or illness.

***SIC:*** Standard Industrial Classification code. A four-digit code assigned to an employer to classify the establishment by the type of activity in which it is engaged.

***SOC:*** Standard Occupational Classification. A system of classifying occupations using a six-digit code to indicate the activity undertaken by that occupation.

***Source of injury or illness:*** the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment that directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness.

***Unspecified (UNS):*** insufficient data for more detailed classification.

***WCB:*** Maine Workers' Compensation Board.

## SUMMARY

Reports of work-related injuries and illnesses resulting in at least one day away from work increased slightly in 2006, from 13,843 first reports in 2005 to 14,047, a 1.45% increase.

Workers injured were examined in terms of three characteristics, occupation, age, and length of service of the injured worker. The five occupations that filed the highest numbers of first reports in 2006 were, in descending order: hand laborers and freight, stock, and material movers (SOC 537062); nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants (SOC 311012); truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer (SOC 533032); janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners (SOC 372011); and construction laborers (SOC 472061 ). These five occupations accounted for 22.6% (3,171 cases) of all 2006 first reports.

While the top ranking age group varied with occupations, overall the 45-49 age group produced the most first reports, with 13.7% (1,923 cases) of all 2006 first reports.

The five industries that recorded the highest frequencies of disabling-case first reports in 2006 accounted for 20.8% (2,927 cases) of all 2006 first reports. They were, in descending order: **general medical and surgical hospitals** (NAICS 622110); **elementary and secondary schools** (NAICS 611110); **nursing care facilities** (NAICS 623110); **supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores** (NAICS 445110) and **ship building and repairing** (NAICS 336611).

The causes of worker injury or illness were examined through two characteristics, event or exposure, and source of injury or illness. The two highest-ranking events or exposures stood out well above all others. **Overexertion in lifting**, the first ranked, appeared in 13.8% of all 2006 first reports (1,949 cases), and had nearly half again the frequency of first reports of the second-ranked **fall to floor, walkway, or other surface**. Four of the top ten events involved overexertion and, taken together, they accounted for 26.2% of all 2006 first reports (3,683 cases).

Overall, the leading source of injury by far was the bodily motion or position of the injured worker. This source was identified in 18.6% of all 2006 first reports. It produced 2,622 first reports.

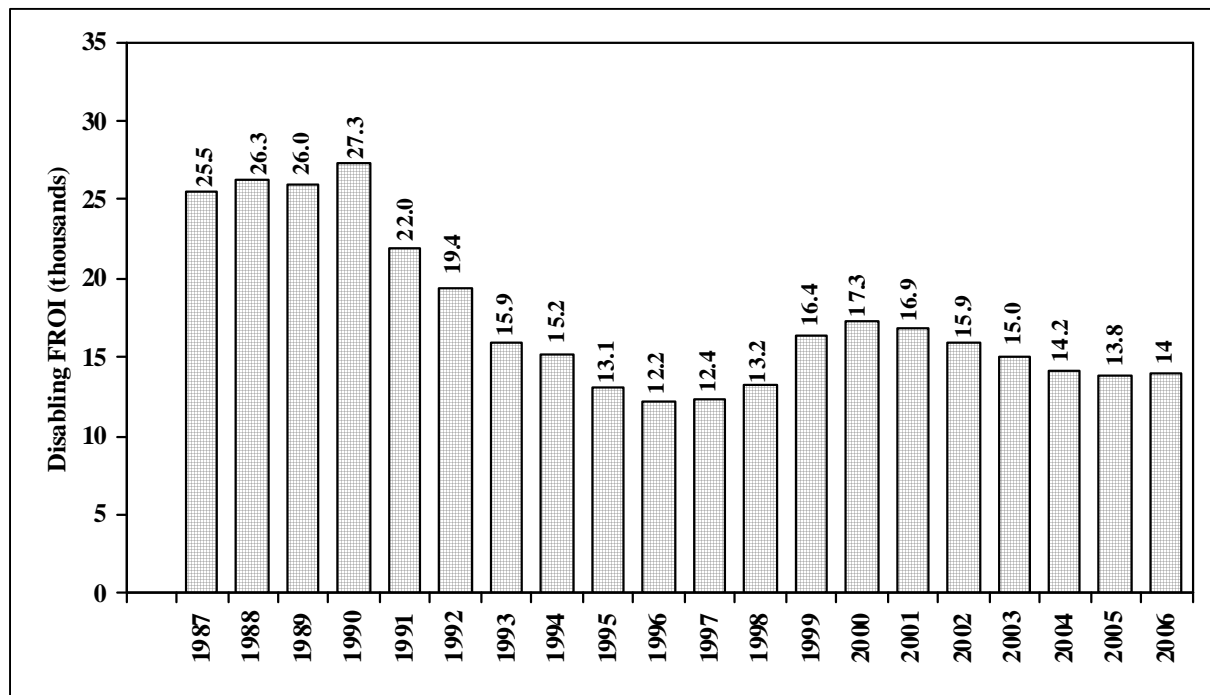
The kinds of injuries and illnesses reported by Maine workers are described through two characteristics, nature of injury or illness, and part of body affected. The highest-ranking nature -- **sprains, strains, and tears** -- was reported in 4,961 first reports in 2006, more than any other characteristic examined here. By itself, it accounted for 35.3% of all 2006 first reports.

The part of body affected varied considerably. Of note however is the fact that first-ranked lumbar region and fifth-ranked back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified, when combined accounted for 19.7 % of all reported disabling cases (2,775 first reports)

## SECTION 1: OVERALL TREND OF FIRST REPORTS

There were 14,047 first reports filed in 2006, a 1.45% increase from the 13,843 in 2005, as shown in Figure 1-1. This change is a continuation of a decline from a recent high point of 17,263 first reports in calendar year 2000. Figure 1-1 below shows the annual totals of disabling work-related injuries and illness for the last 20 years as reported on the Workers' Compensation Board *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports).

**FIGURE 1-1: Twenty-Year Comparison of First Reports Annual Totals**



## SECTION 2: THE MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED CHARACTERISTICS OF WORK-RELATED INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

### Overview

This section provides a broad view of the most-reported characteristics of work-related injury and illness for 2006. It gives information about six standard characteristics of occupational injury or illness, occupation, industry, event or exposure, source of injury or illness, nature of injury or illness, and part of body affected (Tables 2-1 through 2-6). Within each characteristic, this section examines the ten categories that recorded the highest frequencies of disabling-case *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports or FROI) in 2006. The categories are listed in descending order under each characteristic. The top five categories for each characteristic will be examined in detail in later sections of this report. Age of the injured worker and length of service are also examined here. **For all characteristics, the total number of first reports for 2006 was 14,047 (including fatalities).**

### Occupation of Injured Worker

Occupation describes the type of job held by the worker at the time of the injury or illness. The ten occupations that recorded the highest frequencies of first reports in 2006 are presented in Table 2-1. These ten occupations taken together accounted for 34.8% of calendar year 2006 first reports.

**TABLE 2-1: Top Ten Occupations of Injured Worker**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Occupation of Injured Worker</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Laborers & freight, stock, & material movers, hand	911
2	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	666
3	Truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer	662
4	Janitors and cleaners, except maids & housekeeping cleaners	524
5	Construction laborers	408
6	Carpenters	389
7	Retail salespersons	387
8	Stock clerks & order fillers	363
9	Production workers, all other	291
10	Registered Nurses	290

**Industry**

Industry describes the kind of business in which the injured worker's employer was engaged. Table 2-2 presents the ten industries (characterized by six-digit NAICS code) reporting the highest frequency of first reports for 2006. Together, these ten industries accounted for 29.7% of the total first reports filed in 2006. Among the ten industries were one manufacturing and two construction industries, the remaining seven being service or retail industries.

**TABLE 2-2: Top Ten Industries of Injured Worker**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Industry of Injured Worker</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	General medical and surgical hospitals	752
2	Elementary and secondary schools	584
3	Nursing care facilities	572
4	Supermarkets & other grocery (except convenience) stores	510
5	Ship building and repairing	509
6	Full-service restaurants	333
7	Highway, street & bridge construction	304
8	Police Protection	222
9	Warehouse clubs & supercenters	203
10	Mail-Order Houses	188



## Event or Exposure

Event or exposure describes the manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted by the source of injury or illness. While the top ten events taken together represent 52.4% of all 2006 first reports, the first ranked, overexertion in lifting, accounted for 13.8% by itself. The category “nonclassifiable” contains a large proportion of first reports that failed to specify an event.

**TABLE 2-3: Top Ten Events or Exposures**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Event of Injury/Illness</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Overexertion in lifting	1,949
2	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	1,167
3	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	595
4	Overexertion, unspecified	587
5	Nonclassifiable	565
6	Overexertion holdg, carryg, turng, wieldg obj	552
7	Slip, trip, loss of balance-without fall	533
8	Bodily conditions, NEC	524
9	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	470
10	Repetitive motion, unspecified	423

*NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.*

### Source of Injury or Illness

Source of injury or illness identifies the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment which directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness. Table 2-4 lists the top ten sources of occupational injuries and illnesses from 2006 first reports. These ten sources accounted for 56.6% of first reports. The leading source of injury or illness, bodily motion/position of injured worker, accounted for 18.9% of all first reports for 2006. Here, again, “nonclassifiable” represents largely unreported data (10.6%)

**TABLE 2-4: Top Ten Sources of Injury or Illness**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Source of Injury/Illness</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	2,662
2	Nonclassifiable	1,496
3	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	747
4	Floor of building	674
5	Ground	547
6	Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker	535
7	Boxes, crates, cartons	487
8	Other sources, NEC	318
9	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	300
10	Person –other than the injured/ill worker NEC	195

*NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.*

**Nature of Injury or Illness**

Nature of injury or illness identifies the principal physical characteristic(s) of the injury or illness. The top ten natures listed in Table 2-5 were involved in 83.6% of all first reports reported in 2006. The number one nature (sprains, strains, and tears) accounted for 35.3% of all first reports by itself and had more than double the first reports of the second ranked nature (non-back soreness, pain, or hurt). The second ranked nature, in turn, had nearly double the frequency of the third ranked. Thereafter, the decline in frequencies was less steep.

**TABLE 2-5: Top Ten Natures of Injury or Illness**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Nature of Injury/Illness</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Sprains, strains, tears	4,961
2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	1,763
3	Bruises, contusions	1,099
4	Back pain, hurt back	982
5	Fractures	733
6	Cuts, lacerations	762
7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	716
8	Neurotic reaction to stress	310
9	Nonclassifiable	242
10	Carpal tunnel syndrome	171

**Part of Body Affected**

Part of body affected identifies the part of the body directly affected by the nature of injury or illness. These top ten part categories made up 67.4% of all 2006 first reports. Lumbar region, together with back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified, accounted for 19.7% of all first reports.

**TABLE 2-6: Top Ten Parts of Body Affected**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Part of Body</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Lumbar region	1,843
2	Multiple body parts	1,288
3	Knee(s)	1,149
4	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	1,080
5	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	932
6	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	850
7	Body Systems	647
8	Wrist(s)	611
9	Ankle(s)	610
10	Hand(s), except finger(s)	456

*UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification.*

**Age of Injured Worker**

For the purpose of this analysis, the ages of the workers reporting disabling injuries and illnesses in 2006 were broken down into ten inclusive age categories, ranked according to the first reports generated by each (Table 2-7). The 45-49 year age group ranked highest, with 13.6% of all year 2006 first reports. Four of the top five age groups covering the range of 35 to 54 years, together accounted for 50.3% of all first reports.

In third place, however, was the 19-24 years age group with 12.5% of the total. Of particular note, 5,821 first reports (41.4% of all 2006 first reports) involved employees of age 45 years or older.

**TABLE 2-7: Ten Age Categories.**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	45-49	1,923
2	40-44	1,914
3	19-24	1,758
4	50-54	1,661
5	35-39	1,567
6	25-29	1,396
7	30-34	1,331
8	55-59	1,277
9	60 and above	960
10	Under 19	259

### Length of Service of Injured Worker

Length of service of the injured worker represents the time in service with the particular employer by whom the worker was employed at the time of injury or illness. It does not necessarily represent the total experience of a worker in the occupation in which the worker was injured. Length of service of the injured worker was divided into eight inclusive length-of-service categories. **Workers with two or less years of service with their employer accounted for 46.7% of all first reports in 2006**, whereas workers with ten or more years of service with their employer accounted for 20.6%. Length of service was not available for 192 cases in 2006 because the dates of hire were not reported on the first reports.

**TABLE 2-8: Eight Length-of-Service Categories**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Length of Service</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Under 1 Year	4,742
2	5-9 years	1,943
3	>1 year but <2 years	1,820
4	3-4 years	1,378
5	>2 but <3 years	1,076
6	15-19 years	1,041
7	20 years and above	1035
8	10-14 years	820

## SECTION 3: THE TOP FIVE OCCUPATIONS

### Overview

This section presents information on the five occupations with the highest reported frequencies of first reports for 2006. Table 3-1 lists the top five occupations in descending order by frequency of first reports. Together, these five occupations accounted for 22.6% of all first reports for 2006. “Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand” was in first place, followed by Nursing Aides, Orderlies and Attendants (**Note: the Standard Occupation Codes used in this report do NOT directly match the occupation codes used in the 2004 and earlier reports**). For example, nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants (SOC 311012) now excludes home health aides (SOC 311011) and personal and home care aides (SOC 399021) which were formerly included in the category of the same name.

Table 3-1 presents cross-tabulations of the top five occupations with six characteristics of injuries. Event of the injury or illness, source of the injury or illness, nature of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports frequency and percentage for the top five of each characteristic. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked in descending order by the frequency of first reports for each. **The tabulated characteristics refer to the occupation as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 42.5% of nature (sprains, strains, tears) in the first row of the fourth column of Table 3-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses due to overexertion in lifting but to **ALL events** occurring to “Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand”.

While there were differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five occupations, a number of elements were shared in common.

- Overexertion in lifting ranked first in the event column for all of the top five occupations and accounted for 18.4 % of first reports within the top five occupations.
- Bodily motion/position of injured worker ranked first or second under the source of injury and accounted for 13.3% of first reports within the top five occupations.
- Sprains, strains, and tears were ranked as the number one nature of injury and accounted for 42.2% of first reports within the top five occupations.
- Under Part of Body injured, the lumbar region ranked first for four of the five top body part and accounted for 15.9% of first reports..

**TABLE 3-1: Characteristics of Injuries of the Top Five Occupations**

OCCUPATION	EVENT OF INJURY/ ILLNESS*	FROI	%	SOURCE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS*	FROI	%	NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS*	FROI	%
<b>LABORERS AND FREIGHT, STOCK, AND MATERIAL MOVERS, HAND</b> (911 FROI)	Overexertion in lifting	196	21.5	Nonclassifiable	140	15.4	Sprains, strains, tears	388	42.6
	Overexertion, unspecified	63	6.9	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	115	12.6	Soreness, pain, hurt, exc the back	105	11.5
	Nonclassifiable	50	5.5	Boxes, crates, cartons	92	10.1	Back pain, hurt back	68	7.5
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	47	5.2	Other sources, NEC	30	3.3	Bruises, contusion	66	7.2
	Struck by falling object	41	4.5	Floor of building	29	3.2	Cuts, lacerations	55	6.0
<b>NURSING AIDES, ORDERLIES AND ATTENDANTS</b> (666 FROI)	Overexertion in lifting	184	27.6	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care facility	359	53.9	Sprains, strains, tears	340	51.1
	Overexertion holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	98	14.7	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	62	9.3	Soreness, pain, hurt, exc the back	83	12.5
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	60	9.0	Nonclassifiable	55	8.3	Back pain, hurt back	81	12.2
	Overexertion, unspecified	41	6.2	Floor of building	51	7.7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	41	6.2
	Overexertion, NEC	31	4.7	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	13	2.0	Bruises, contusion	38	5.7
<b>TRUCK DRIVERS, HEAVY AND TRACTOR-TRAILER</b> (662 FROI)	Overexertion in lifting	63	9.5	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	98	14.8	Sprains, strains, tears	259	39.1
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	52	7.9	Ground	86	13.0	Bruises, contusions	76	11.5
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	52	7.9	Nonclassifiable	76	11.5	Soreness, pain, hurt, exc the back	59	8.9
	Fall from non-moving vehicle	50	7.6	Floor of building	48	7.3	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	45	6.8
	Nonclassifiable	37	5.6	Bodily conditions of injured workers	24	3.6	Fractures	44	6.6
<b>JANITORS AND CLEANERS, EXCEPT MAIDS AND HOUSE- KEEPING CLEANERS</b> (524 FROI)	Overexertion in lifting	95	18.1	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	88	16.8	Sprains, strains, tears	222	42.4
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	44	8.4	Nonclassifiable	44	8.4	Soreness, pain, hurt, exc the back	59	11.3
	Overexertion holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	30	5.7	Floor of building	38	7.3	Bruises, contusions	49	9.4
	Overexertion, unspecified	29	5.5	Bags, sacks, totes	23	4.4	Back pain, hurt back	47	9.0
	Slip, trip, loss of balance without fall	27	5.2	Tables/Work Tables	19	3.6	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	28	5.3
<b>CONSTRUCTION LABORERS</b> (408 FROI)	Overexertion in lifting	45	11.0	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	60	14.7	Sprains, strains, tears	135	33.1
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	22	5.4	Nonclassifiable	43	10.5	Soreness, pain, hurt, exc the back	58	14.2
	Nonclassifiable	21	5.1	Ground	33	8.1	Cuts, lacerations	38	9.3
	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	21	5.1	Walkway/ground surface	13	3.2	Fractures	27	6.6
	Struck by falling object	20	4.9	Nails, brads and tacks	11	2.7	Bruises, contusions	27	6.6

\*These columns refer to the occupation indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.** UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification.

**Continued next page.**



TABLE 3-1, continued

OCCUPATION	PART OF BODY*	FROI	%	AGE OF INJURED WORKER*	FROI	%	LENGTH OF SERVICE *	FROI	%
<b>LABORERS AND FREIGHT, STOCK, AND MATERIAL MOVERS, HAND</b> (911 FROI)	Lumbar region	137	15.0	Under 25	246	27.0	Under 1 year	486	54.4
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	86	9.4	25-34	238	26.3	5-14 years	128	14.3
	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	63	6.9	35-44	219	24.0	2-4 years	113	12.6
	Knee(s)	63	6.9	45-54	162	17.8	1 year to 2 years	110	12.3
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	60	6.5	55 and older	46	5.0	15 years and above	56	6.3
<b>NURSING AIDES, ORDERLIES AND ATTENDANTS</b> (666 FROI)	Lumbar region	162	24.3	35-44	159	23.9	Under 1 year	272	41.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	73	10.9	45-54	159	23.9	2-4 years	132	20.0
	Multiple body parts	60	9.0	55 and older	147	22.0	5-14 years	119	18.0
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	58	8.7	25-34	120	18.0	1 year to 2 years	102	15.5
	Knee (s)	48	7.2	Under 25	81	12.2	15 years and above	35	5.3
<b>TRUCK DRIVERS, HEAVY AND TRACTOR-TRAILER</b> (662 FROI)	Lumbar region	84	12.6	35-44	207	31.3	Under 1 year	214	32.9
	Multiple body parts	75	1.31	45-54	191	28.9	2-4 years	146	22.5
	Ankle (s)	49	7.4	25-34	128	19.3	1 year to 2 years	134	20.2
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	47	7.0	Under 25	107	16.2	5-14 years	90	13.8
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	47	7.0	55 and older	29	4.4	15 years and above	65	10.0
<b>JANITORS AND CLEANERS, EXCEPT MAIDS AND HOUSE-KEEPING CLEANERS</b> (524 FROI)	Lumbar region	88	16.8	45-54	173	33.0	5-14 years	142	27.5
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	49	9.4	55 and older	143	27.3	Under 1 year	132	25.5
	Multiple body parts	44	8.4	35-44	111	21.2	2-4 years	110	21.3
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	40	7.6	25-34	51	9.7	15 years and above	70	13.5
	Knee(s)	37	7.0	Under 25	46	8.8	1 year to 2 years	63	12.2
<b>CONSTRUCTION LABORERS</b> (408 FROI)	Knee (s)	39	9.6	Under 25	126	30.1	Under 1 year	243	60.2
	Lumbar region	36	8.8	25-34	103	25.3	2-4 years	56	13.9
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	34	8.3	35-44	92	22.6	5-14 years	51	12.6
	Multiple body parts	32	7.8	45-54	58	14.2	1 year to 2 years	34	8.4
	Finger	29	7.0	55 and older	29	7.1	15 years and above	20	4.9

\*These columns refer to the occupation indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.** UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = Insufficient data for classification.

## SECTION 4: THE TOP FIVE INDUSTRIES

### Overview.

This section will present information on the five industries with the highest reported frequencies of disabling case Maine Workers' Compensation Board *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports). Together, these five industries accounted for 20.8% of all first reports for 2006. Table 4-1 lists the top five industries in descending order by frequency of first reports for 2006. The industries are categorized at the six-digit level of NAICS coding. **Please remember that the NAICS codes used in this report do NOT directly match the SIC codes used for 2004 and earlier data.** General Medical and surgical hospitals (NAICS 622110) had the highest frequency of first reports, followed by elementary and secondary schools (NAICS 611110).

Table 4-1 is a cross tabulation of the top five industries with five characteristics of injuries within these industries. Occupation of the injured or ill worker, event of the injury or illness, source of the injury or illness, nature of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports count and percentage for the top five of each characteristic. **The tabulated characteristics refer to that industry as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 24.8% of source of injury or illness (health care patient/resident of health care facility) in the first row of the fourth column of Table 4-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by registered nurses only but by ALL occupations within general medical and surgical hospitals, including those occupations not listed.

While differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five Industries were considerable, there were elements shared in common.

- Sprains, strains, and tears was by far the number one reported nature of injury or illness, accounted for 39.5% of first reports within these top five industries.
- Bodily motion/position of injured worker accounted for 19.6% of first reports and was ranked first in three of the top five industries and second in the other two.
- Overexertion in lifting ranked first or second in all five industries and accounted for 17.2% of the first reports within these top five industries.

**TABLE 4-1: Characteristics of Injuries Within the Top Five Industries**

INDUSTRY	OCCUPATION*	FROI	%	EVENT OF INJURY/ ILLNESS *	FROI	%	SOURCE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS*	FROI	%
<b>GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS</b> (752 FROI)	Registered Nurses	172	22.8	Overexertion in lifting	141	18.8	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	187	24.8
	Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	144	19.1	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	75	9.9	Bodily motion/position of inj worker	123	16.4
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	48	6.4	Overexrtn holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	58	7.7	Nonclassifiable	58	7.7
	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	48	6.4	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	54	7.1	Floor of building	57	7.6
	Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	35	4.6	Overexertion, unspecified	38	5.0	Bodily conditions of inj/ill worker	31	4.1
<b>ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b> (584 FROI)	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	166	28.4	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	95	16.2	Bodily motion/position of inj worker	118	20.2
	Elementary school teachers, exc spl ed	70	11.9	Overexertion in lifting	71	12.1	Person-other than inj/ill worker, NEC	57	9.7
	Spl education teachers, Pre-School-K	52	8.9	Slip, trip, loss of balance without fall	30	5.1	Floor of building	48	8.2
	Bus Drivers, School	48	8.2	Bodily conditions, NEC	26	4.4	Ground	32	5.4
	Spl education teachers, middle school	38	6.5	Overexrtn holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	25	4.2	Bodily conditions of inj/ill worker	26	4.4
<b>NURSING CARE FACILITIES</b> (572 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	388	67.8	Overexertion in lifting	143	25.0	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	264	46.7
	Registered Nurses	38	6.6	Overexrtn holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	72	12.5	Bodily motion/position of inj worker	54	9.4
	Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	28	4.9	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	59	10.3	Nonclassifiable	46	8.0
	Maids, Housekeeping, Cleaners	25	4.6	Overexertion, unspecified	42	7.3	Floor of building	42	7.3
	Laundry, dry cleaning workers	15	2.6	Overexertion NEC	28	4.9	Bodily conditions of inj/ill worker	12	2.0
<b>SUPERMARKETS AND OTHER GROCERY STORES</b> (510 FROI)	Stock clerks and Order fillers	138	27.0	Overexertion in lifting	98	19.2	Bodily motion/position of inj worker	106	20.7
	Laborers, freight, stock/matl movers	76	14.9	Nonclassifiable	60	11.1	NonClassifiable	93	18.2
	Cashiers	65	12.7	Overexertion, unspecified	38	7.5	Box, crates, cartons	70	13.7
	Combo food prep/servg workers	63	12.3	Repetitive plac/grasp/movg obj ex tool	25	4.9	Bags, sacks , totes	21	4.4
	First line super/mgr of retail sales workrs	33	6.5	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	25	4.9	Other sources, NEC	20	3.9
<b>SHIP BUILDING AND REPAIRING</b> (509 FROI)	Lay-Out Workers, Metal and Plastic	132	25.9	Bending/Climbing/Crawling/Reachg/Twis	52	10.2	Bodily motion/position of inj worker	174	34.2
	Electricians	66	12.9	Overexertion in lifting	49	9.6	Nonclassifiable	38	7.5
	Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers	65	12.7	Repetitive Use of Tools	43	8.4	Other sources NEC	27	5.3
	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	49	9.6	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	34	6.6	Floor of building	21	4.1
	Sheet Metal Workers	40	7.9	Nonclassifiable	23	4.5	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, UNS	17	3.3

\*These columns refer to the industry indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**  
 UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable =  
 Insufficient data for classification **Continued next page.**

TABLE 4-1, continued

INDUSTRY	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	FROI	%	PART OF BODY*	FROI	%
<b>GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS</b> (752 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	331	44.0	Lumbar region	107	14.2
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	90	11.9	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	85	11.3
	Bruises, contusions	55	7.3	Multiple body parts	80	10.6
	Back pain, hurt back	53	7.0	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	64	8.5
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	35	4.6	Knee(s)	58	7.7
<b>ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b> (584 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	193	33.0	Multiple body parts	111	19.0
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	84	14.0	Lumbar region	64	10.9
	Bruises, contusions	66	11.3	Knee(s)	51	8.7
	Back pain, hurt back	51	8.7	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	43	7.3
	Fractures	44	7.5	Body systems	39	6.6
<b>NURSING CARE FACILITIES</b> (572 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	280	48.9	Lumbar region	132	23.0
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	71	12.4	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	50	8.7
	Back pain, hurt back	60	10.4	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	49	8.5
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	42	7.3	Multiple body parts	48	8.4
	Bruises, contusions	32	5.6	Knee(s)	39	6.8
<b>SUPERMARKETS AND OTHER GROCERY STORES</b> (510)	Sprains, strains, tears	262	51.3	Lumbar region	86	16.8
	Bruises, contusions	42	8.2	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	63	12.4
	Cuts, lacerations	35	6.8	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	45	8.8
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	34	6.6	Knee(s)	34	6.6
	Tendonitis	25	4.9	Wrist(s)	33	6.5
<b>SHIP BUILDING AND REPAIRING</b> (509 FROI)	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	192	37.7	Knee(s)	84	16.5
	Sprains, strains, tears	90	17.6	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	76	14.9
	Back pain, hurt back	56	11.0	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	71	13.9
	Bruises, contusions	22	4.3	Hand(s) except finger (s)	24	4.7
	Symptoms in nerv/musculoskel sys, NEC	20	3.9	Multiple body parts	22	4.3

\*These columns refer to the industry indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**  
 UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification

## SECTION 5: THE TOP FIVE EVENTS OR EXPOSURES

### Overview.

Events or exposures, defined as the manner in which injuries and illnesses are inflicted or produced, are dealt with in this section. Table 5-1 below lists the top five events or exposures in descending order by frequency of first reports for 2006. Together, these five events accounted for 34.60% of all first reports for 2006. Overexertion in lifting was by far the number one reported event and three of the top five were overexertion events, together accounting for 22.2% of 2006 first reports. Fall to floor, walkway, or other surface ranked second among events leading to injury or illness however. Unfortunately, nonclassifiable, the third ranked event, accounting for 4.0% of all first reports, represents first reports for which the event was not reported at all or not reported in sufficient detail to allow classification.

Table 5-1 is a cross tabulation of the top five events or exposures with six characteristics of injuries for these events. Occupation of the injured worker, source of the injury or illness, nature of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports frequency and percentage for the top five of each characteristic. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the event as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 64.3% of nature (sprains, strains, and tears) in the first row of the fourth column of Table 5-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants only but by ALL occupations within overexertion in lifting, including those not listed.

These top five events shared a number of elements in common, although there were differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between them.

- Sprains, strains, and tears ranked first in the nature column for four of the top five events.
- When ranked by length-of-service (LOS), the top five LOS groups were all under one year of service with their current employers when injured.

**TABLE 5-1: Characteristics of Injuries for the Top Five Events or Exposures**

EVENT	OCCUPATION*	FROI	%	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	FROI	%	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	FROI	%
<b>OVEREXERTION IN LIFTING</b> (1,949 FROI)	Laborer & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	196	10.5	Boxes, crates, cartons	340	17.4	Sprains, strains, tears	1254	64.3
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	184	9.5	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	299	15.3	Back pain, hurt back	283	14.5
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	95	4.8	Nonclassifiable	180	9.2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	210	10.7
	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	90	4.6	Bags, sacks, totes	131	6.7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	74	3.8
	Retail Salespersons	82	4.2	Other sources, NEC	107	5.4	Hernia NEC	40	2.0
<b>FALL TO FLOOR, WALKWAY, OR OTHER SURFACE</b> (1,167 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	60	5.1	Floor of building	485	41.5	Sprains, strains, tears	314	26.9
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	52	4.5	Ground	300	25.7	Bruises, contusions	249	21.3
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	44	3.7	Parking lots	130	11.1	Fractures	191	16.3
	Laborer & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	40	3.4	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, UNS	109	9.3	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	165	14.1
	Retail Salespersons	37	3.2	Sidewalks, paths, outdoor walkways	57	4.3	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	85	7.3
<b>OVEREXERTION IN PULLING OR PUSHING OBJECTS</b> (595 FROI)	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	52	8.7	Carts, dolly, hand-truck	74	12.4	Sprains, strains, tears	383	64.3
	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	47	7.9	Nonclassifiable	43	7.2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	74	12.4
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	29	4.9	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	41	6.9	Back pain, hurt back	64	10.7
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	26	4.4	Hoses	26	4.4	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	29	4.8
	Production Workers	24	4.0	Jacks, hydraulic	20	3.4	Inguinal hernia	12	2.0
<b>OVEREXERTION, UNSPECIFIED</b> (587 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	63	10.7	Nonclassifiable	246	41.9	Sprains, strains, tears	291	49.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	41	6.9	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	141	24.0	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	96	16.3
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	29	4.9	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	46	7.8	Back pain, hurt back	88	14.9
	Construction Laborers	21	3.6	Tools, instruments and equipment, UNS	33	5.6	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	30	5.1
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	21	3.6	Person-other than inj/ill worker, NEC	7	1.2	Hernia, NEC	16	2.7
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (565 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	50	8.8	Nonclassifiable	554	98.0	Lumbar	68	12.0
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	37	6.6	Highway vehicle unspecified	2	0.4	Shoulders	60	10.6
	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	34	6.0	Vehicle unspecified	2	0.4	Knee(s)	54	9.6
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	22	3.9	Machinery unspecified	2	0.4	Back, including spine, spinal cord UNS	51	9.0
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	20	3.6	Boxes, Crates, Cartons	1	0.2	Multiple body parts	50	8.8

\*These columns refer to the event indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.** UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = Insufficient data for classification. **Continued next page.**

TABLE 5-1, continued

EVENT	PART OF BODY*	AGE OF INJURED WORKER*		LENGTH OF SERVICE *		
		FROI	%		FROI	%
<b>OVEREXERTION IN LIFTING</b> (1,949 FROI)	Lumbar region	731	37.5	35-44	529	27.1
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	249	12.7	45-54	470	24.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	231	11.8	25-34	425	18.0
	Multiple body parts	95	4.8	Under 25	291	14.9
	Thoracic region	77	3.9	55 and older	234	12.0
<b>FALL TO FLOOR, WALKWAY, OR OTHER SURFACE</b> (1,167 FROI)	Multiple body parts	254	21.7	45-54	328	28.1
	Knee(s)	186	15.9	55 and older	296	25.4
	Ankle(s)	87	7.4	35-44	251	21.5
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	77	6.5	25-34	166	14.2
	Lumbar region	67	5.7	Under 25	126	10.8
<b>OVEREXERTION IN PULLING OR PUSHING OBJECTS</b> (595 FROI)	Lumbar region	143	24.0	35-44	162	27.3
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	109	18.3	45-54	156	26.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	60	10.0	55 and older	103	17.3
	Knee (s)	36	6.0	25-34	102	17.1
	Multiple body parts	27	4.5	Under 25	72	12.1
<b>OVEREXERTION, UNSPECIFIED</b> (587 FROI)	Lumbar region	122	20.7	35-44	161	27.4
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	82	13.9	45-54	159	27.0
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	77	13.1	25-34	114	19.4
	Multiple body parts	45	7.6	Under 25	79	13.5
	Wrist(s)	37	6.3	55 and older	74	12.6
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (565 FROI)	Lumbar region	68	12.0	45-54	165	29.5
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	60	10.6	35-44	149	26.4
	Knee (s)	54	9.5	25-34	100	17.7
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	51	9.0	55 and older	91	16.1
	Multiple body parts	50	8.8	Under 25	60	10.6

\*These columns refer to the event indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification

## SECTION 6: THE TOP FIVE SOURCES OF INJURY OR ILLNESS

### Overview

Source of injury or illness identifies the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment that directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness. Taken together with event (Section 5), source provides a picture of how workers are being injured on the job. Information on the five sources with the highest frequencies of first reports for 2006 is presented in this section. Table 7-1 below lists the top five sources in descending order. Together, these five sources accounted for 43.2% of all first reports for 2006. Bodily motion/ position of injured worker fell in first place, itself accounting for 18.6% of the 2006 total.

Table 6-1 is a cross tabulation of the top five sources of injury and illness with five characteristics of injuries for these sources. Occupation, nature of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports frequency and percentage for the top five of each characteristic. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the source as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 48.6% of nature (sprains, strains, and tears) in the first row of the third column of Table 6-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer, only but by ALL occupations within bodily motion/position of injured worker, including those occupations not listed.

While there were considerable differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five sources, some elements were shared in common

- Sprains, strains, and tears was the first place reported nature for all top five sources, accounted for 43.0% of first reports within these top five sources.



**TABLE 6-1: Characteristics of Injuries for the Top Five Sources of Injury and Illness**

SOURCE	OCCUPATION*	FROI	%	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	FROI	%	PART OF BODY*	FROI	%
<b>BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER</b> (2,622 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	115	4.4	Sprains, strains, tears	1,274	48.6	Knee(s)	434	16.5
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	98	3.7	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	537	20.4	Lumbar region	326	12.4
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	88	3.4	Back pain, hurt back	209	7.9	Wrist(s)	276	10.5
	Retail Salespersons	65	2.5	Carpal tunnel syndrome	167	6.4	Ankle (s)	264	10.0
	Stock Clerks	64	2.4	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	115	4.4	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	226	8.6
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (1,496 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	140	9.4	Sprains, strains, tears	590	39.4	Lumbar region	219	14.6
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	76	5.0	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	206	13.7	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	138	9.2
	Stock Clerks	67	4.7	Back pain, hurt back	122	8.1	Multiple body parts	122	8.2
	Production Workers, All Other	57	3.8	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	82	5.4	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	116	7.8
	Nursing Aides	55	3.6	Bruises, contusions	73	4.8	Knee(s)	98	6.5
<b>HEALTH CARE PATIENT/RESIDENT OF HEALTH CARE FACILITY</b> (731 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	359	49.1	Sprains, strains, tears	426	58.2	Lumbar region	211	28.2
	Registered Nurses	119	16.2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	100	13.6	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	93	12.4
	Personal and Home Care Aides	75	10.3	Back pain, hurt back	91	12.4	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	89	12.2
	Psychiatric Aides	41	5.6	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	45	6.1	Multiple body parts	76	10.2
	EMTs/Paramedics	26	3.5	Bruises, contusions	43	5.8	Thoracic region	42	5.6
<b>FLOOR OF BUILDING</b> (674 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	51	7.6	Sprains, strains, tears	171	25.3	Multiple body parts	156	23.1
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	38	5.6	Bruises, contusions	139	20.6	Knee(s)	119	17.6
	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	29	4.3	Fractures	108	16.0	Lumbar region	44	6.5
	Waiters/Waitresses	26	3.8	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	94	13.9	Wrist(s)	38	5.6
	Comb Food Prep and Servg Workers	25	3.7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	67	9.9	Ankle(s)	37	5.5
<b>GROUND</b> (547 FROI)	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	86	15.8	Sprains, strains, tears	150	27.4	Multiple body parts	110	20.1
	Construction Laborers	33	6.0	Fractures	119	21.7	Ankle(s)	70	12.8
	Carpenters	32	5.8	Bruises, contusions	101	18.5	Knee(s)	69	12.6
	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	23	4.2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	70	12.8	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	44	8.0
	Landscaping workers	17	3.1	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	38	6.9	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	26	4.7

\*These columns refer to the source indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**  
 UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification.

**Continued next page.**

TABLE 6-1, continued

SOURCE	AGE OF INJURED WORKER*	FROI		%	LENGTH OF SERVICE *		FROI	%
<b>BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER</b> (2,622 FROI)	45-54	755	28.8		Under 1 year		719	27.4
	35-44	660	25.2		5-14 years		595	22.7
	55 and older	499	19.0		15 years and above		542	20.7
	25-34	445	16.9		2-4 years		436	16.6
	Under 25	263	10.0		1 year to 2 years		294	11.2
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (1,496 FROI)	45-55	407	27.2		Under 1 year		489	32.6
	35-44	394	26.3		5-14 years		316	21.1
	25-34	270	18.0		2-4 years		270	18.0
	55 and older	240	16.0		15 years and above		243	16.2
	Under 25	185	12.4		1 year to 2 years		166	11.1
<b>HEALTH CARE PATIENT/RESIDENT OF HEALTH CARE FACILITY</b> (731 FROI)	25-34	199	26.6		Under 1 year		267	36.6
	35-44	193	26.4		2-4 years		147	20.2
	45-54	171	23.4		5-14 years		136	18.6
	Under 25	118	16.1		1 year to 2 years		128	17.6
	55 and older	66	9.0		15 years and above		51	7.0
<b>FLOOR OF BUILDING</b> (674 FROI)	45-54	202	30.0		Under 1 year		210	31.1
	55 and older	155	23.0		5-14 years		134	19.8
	35-44	126	18.7		2-4 years		131	19.4
	25-34	106	15.7		15 years and above		108	16.0
	Under 25	85	12.6		1 year to 2 years		87	12.9
<b>GROUND</b> (547 FROI)	45-54	149	27.2		Under 1 year		187	34.2
	35-44	122	22.3		5-14 years		105	19.2
	55 and older	115	21.0		2-4 years		91	16.6
	25-34	95	17.4		1 year to 2 years		76	13.9
	Under 25	66	12.0		15 years and above		71	13.0

\*These columns refer to the source indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**  
 UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable,

## SECTION 7: THE TOP FIVE NATURES OF INJURY OR ILLNESS

### Overview

This section presents information on the five natures of injury or illness reported in the highest numbers of first reports for 2006. Table 7-1 below lists the top five natures in descending order. Together, these five natures accounted for 68.1% all first reports for 2006. Sprains, strains, and tears alone accounted for 35.3% of all disabling first reports. It was followed by non-back soreness, pain, or hurt, another musculoskeletal category.

Table 7-1 is a cross tabulation of the top five natures of injury or illness with six characteristics of injuries for these natures. Occupation of the injured worker, event of the injury or illness, source of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the First Report frequency and percentage for the top five of each characteristic. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the nature as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics**. For example, the 25.3% of event (overexertion in lifting) in the first row of the third column of Table 7-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants but by ALL occupations within sprains, strains, and tears, including those occupations not listed.

While there were differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five natures, a number of elements were shared in common.

- For these top five natures, 35.0% of first reports involved employees with a length of service of less than 1 year.
- As to source of injury or illness, bodily motion/position of injured worker ranked first in the three natures other than bruises and fractures.

**TABLE 7-1: Characteristics of Injuries for the Top Five Natures of Injury or Illness.**

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	OCCUPATION*	FROI	%	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	FROI	%	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	FROI	%
<b>SPRAINS, STRAINS, TEARS-</b> (4,961 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	388	7.8	Overexertion in lifting	1,254	25.3	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	1,274	25.6
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	340	6.9	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	383	7.7	Nonclassifiable	590	11.9
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	259	5.2	Slip, trip, loss of balance without falling	371	7.5	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	426	8.6
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	222	4.5	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	336	6.7	Boxes, crates, cartons	290	5.9
	Retail Salespersons	171	3.4	Overexertion holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	314	6.3	Floor of Bldg.	171	3.4
<b>SORENESS, PAIN, HURT, EXCEPT THE BACK</b> (1,763 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	105	5.9	Overexertion in lifting	210	11.9	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	537	30.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	83	4.7	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	165	9.4	Nonclassifiable	206	11.7
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	59	3.4	Nonclassifiable	109	6.2	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac.	100	5.7
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	59	3.4	Repetitive motion, unspecified	108	6.2	Floor of building	94	5.3
	Construction Laborers	58	3.3	Overexertion unspecified	96	5.4	Ground	70	3.9
<b>BRUISES, CONTUSIONS</b> (1,099 FROI)	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	76	6.9	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	249	22.6	Floor of building	139	12.6
	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	66	6.0	Struck by falling object	119	10.8	Ground	101	9.1
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	49	4.5	Struck against stationary object	76	6.9	Nonclassifiable	73	6.6
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	38	3.5	Struck by object, not elsewhere classifiable	61	5.5	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, UNS	56	5.0
	Retail Salespersons	37	3.4	Contact with object & equip. UNS	46	4.2	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	43	3.9
<b>BACK PAIN, HURT BACK</b> (982 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	81	8.3	Overexertion in lifting	283	28.8	Bodily motion/position of inj worker	209	21.3
	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	68	6.9	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	97	9.8	Nonclassifiable	122	12.4
	Janitors & Cleaners, exc Maids & Hskpg	47	4.8	Overexertion holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	91	9.3	Hlth care patient/resident of hlth care fac	91	9.3
	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	42	4.3	Overexertion unspecified	88	8.9	Boxes, crates, cartons	59	6.0
	Carpenters	36	3.7	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	64	6.5	Other sources, NEC	52	5.3
<b>CUTS LACERATIONS</b> (762 FROI)	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Matl Movrs	55	7.2	Struck by slipping hand-held object	185	24.3	Knives	132	17.3
	Cooks, Restaurant	51	6.7	Struck against object NEC	145	19.0	Nonclassifiable	59	7.74
	Combined food prep, serving workers	50	6.6	Contact with objects/equip UNS	64	8.4	Food Slicers	31	4.0
	Carpenters	49	6.4	Struck by Objects NEC	54	7.0	Table saw	20	2.6
	Construction Laborers	38	4.9	Struck against stationary object	40	5.2	Floor of building	17	2.3

\* These columns refer to the nature indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**  
 UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification.

**Continued next page.**

TABLE 7-1, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	PART OF BODY*	FROI %		AGE OF INJURED WORKER*	FROI %		LENGTH OF SERVICE *	FROI %	
		FROI	%		FROI	%		FROI	%
<b>SPRAINS, STRAINS, TEARS</b> (4,961 FROI)	Lumbar region	1,300	26.2	35-44	1,314	26.52	Under 1 year	1,656	33.4
	Knee (s)	590	11.9	45-54	1,231	24.8	5-14 years	983	20.0
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	563	11.3	25-34	1,021	20.6	2-4 years	912	18.4
	Ankle(s)	402	8.1	Under 25	704	14.2	15 years and above	656	13.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	332	6.7	55 and older	691	13.9	1 year to 2 years	654	13.4
<b>SORENESS, PAIN, HURT, EXCEPT THE BACK</b> (1,763 FROI)	Multiple body parts	388	22.0	45-54	530	30.1	Under 1 year	561	31.9
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	303	17.2	35-44	416	23.6	15 years and above	377	21.4
	Knee(s)	264	14.9	55 and older	338	19.2	5-14 years	334	18.9
	Wrist(s)	100	5.7	25-34	300	17.0	2-4 years	271	15.4
	Multiple Upper Extremities	50	2.8	Under 25	179	10.2	1 year to 2 years	217	12.3
<b>BRUISES, CONTUSIONS</b> (1,099 FROI)	Multiple body parts	199	18.1	35-44	261	23.7	Under 1 year	428	38.9
	Knee(s)	139	12.6	45-54	245	22.3	5-14 years	197	17.9
	Foot (feet), except toe(s), unspecified	73	6.6	25-34	234	21.3	2-4 years	187	17.0
	Hands except fingers	58	5.3	55 and older	200	18.2	1 year to 2 years	138	12.5
	Chest, exc internal locn of disease/disorder	47	4.2	Under 25	159	14.5	15 years and above	127	11.8
<b>BACK PAIN, HURT BACK</b> (982 FROI)	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	454	46.2	35-44	271	27.6	Under 1 year	353	36.0
	Lumbar region	431	43.9	45-54	215	21.9	5-14 years	185	18.9
	Thoracic region	65	6.6	25-34	214	21.8	2-4 years	174	17.8
	Multiple back regions	24	2.4	Under 25	149	15.2	1 year to 2 years	146	14.9
	Coccygeal region	4	0.4	55 and older	133	13.5	15 years and above	122	12.5
<b>CUTS LACERATIONS</b> (762 FROI)	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	384	50.4	Under 25	243	32.0	Under 1 year	353	46.3
	Hand	114	14.9	25-34	167	22.0	2-4 years	120	15.9
	Head	22	2.8	45-54	137	18.0	1 year to 2 years	117	15.5
	Forearm	21	2.7	35-44	119	15.6	5-14 years	106	14.0
	Lower Leg	21	2.7	55 and older	95	12.5	15 years and above	58	7.7

These columns refer to the nature indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = Insufficient data for classification.

## **APPENDIX A: WORK-RELATED INJURY DATA AVAILABLE**

Besides the information presented in this report, the Maine Department of Labor can produce detailed data by calendar year in a format called a *profile*, available by specific request and at no charge. A profile is a cross-tabulation of characteristics of reported Workers' Compensation lost time cases with at least one day away from work beyond the day of injury or illness for a given year or years. A profile typically consists of cross-tabulations of the counts (frequencies) of:

1. Occupation of injured or ill worker
2. Industry of injured or ill worker
3. Event or exposure
4. Source of injury or illness
5. Nature of injury or illness
6. Part of body affected

A profile may also include counts of other variables such as age, gender, length of service, county of injury, *etc.* as well as day of the week and month the injury or illness occurred.

Profiles can be requested by anyone who is interested in one or more specific criteria such as an industry or a geographic area (one or more towns or counties). Also, requests can be made based on specific nature of injury or illness, part of body affected, source of injury or illness, event or exposure, and demographics. Examples of past profiles include:

First reports in the logging industry

First reports in wholesale plumbing and heating supplies

Amputations

First reports affecting older workers (age 45 and older)

First reports at a specific hospital

First reports of cases occurring by county

One can also request a tightly focused profile: *i.e.*, a profile given a narrower scope by cross-tabulating multiple criteria. For example, one could request:

A profile of the back injuries occurring in paper mills (two criteria)

Profile of the retail sales injuries in Somerset County (two criteria)

A profile of injuries to truck drivers age 50 and older (two criteria)

A profile of back injuries occurring to women in the city of Westbrook (three criteria, a three-way cross-tabulation)

Besides the standard profiles available, the Department can respond to special requests on publicly available data in the WCB files: for example, cross-tabulations of nature by part, source by event, age group by length of service, and so forth. Special tables can be run on age groups other than those used in Table A-1: *e.g.*, looking at workers aged 60-69 *vs.* 70-79.

Under Department policy, profiles of specific *companies* are issued only to confirmed officials of the company requested. Company data is available to others directly from the Maine Workers' Compensation Board (WCB). If the requestor wants information about specific *employees* they will need to contact the WCB directly. Once permission is granted the Department can fulfill the specific data request. For example, the Department has used WCB data to generate an injury profile of recent graduates of a particular college in Maine.

A sample cross-tabulation profile is provided beginning on the next page. It covers workers in health care industries (Three-digit NAICS Codes 621, 622, and 623) in Maine for calendar year 2006. The sample profile contains tables for the "standard" characteristics, nature, part, source, event, and occupation. These tables list both count (frequency) and percent by year, with the years ordered by total number of first reports, rather than chronologically. Additional characteristics include age, length of service, day of the week, and month of injury or illness. The latter three are tabulated by year in chronological order, but age is given only as combined figures for the whole three-year period with columns for cumulative frequency and cumulative percent. This illustrates the variety of forms of presentation possible within a profile. Other characteristics, such as gender of the worker, could have been included or used as criteria.

The sample profile lists only disabling cases that meet the criteria with a frequency count of 10 or greater. A profile is very useful in that it allows examination of a specific area of the available data in detail.

If you have further questions or would like to request a specific profile, please contact Steve Laundrie at the Maine Department of Labor at (207) 623-7903 or e-mail [steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov](mailto:steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov)

**Sample Profile: First Reports of Injury Applicable to the Health Care Industry In Maine  
(Three-digit NAICS Codes 621, 622, and 623) – Calendar Year 2006.**

There are several interesting points emerging from this profile:

Nearly one third (31.7%) of all disabling cases occurred to Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants. When also including registered nurses; personal and home care aides; licensed practical and vocational nurses; and home health aides the percentage increases to over 52%.

In nearly one third (31.3%) of all reported disabling cases, the source of the injury is the health care patient and in over 40% of all reported claims, the event is overexertion. This suggests a need for further research into patient handling activities in health care settings.

Almost half (46.4%) of all reported claims occurred to employees with length of service less than two years.

Nearly half (44.4%) of all reported claims occurred to employees age 45 and older compared to only 11.5% occurring to employees age 25 and younger.



**Table A-1**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621,622, and 623)**

Event Leading to Injury	Total	Disabling Cases	
		2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>Overexertion in lifting</b>	387	387	18.2
<b>Fall to floor, walkway, or othr surface</b>	223	223	10.5
<b>Overexertn holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg ob</b>	181	181	8.5
<b>Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects</b>	103	103	4.8
<b>Bodily conditions, NEC</b>	103	103	4.8
<b>Overexertion, UNS</b>	101	101	4.7
<b>Overexertion, NEC</b>	88	88	4.1
<b>Nonclassifiable</b>	71	71	3.3
<b>Bending/climbing/crawling/reachg/twistg</b>	68	68	3.2
<b>Hitting, kicking, beating</b>	58	58	2.7
<b>Slip, trip,loss of balance-without fall</b>	55	55	2.6
<b>Bodily reaction, NEC</b>	45	45	2.1
<b>Repetitive motion, UNS</b>	40	40	1.9
<b>Inhalation of substance, UNS</b>	38	38	1.8
<b>Fall down stairs or steps</b>	36	36	1.7
<b>Assaults/violent acts by person(s), NEC</b>	33	33	1.6
<b>Typing or keyentry</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>Struck by object, NEC</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>Struck against object, NEC</b>	30	30	1.4
<b>Struck by falling object</b>	23	23	1.1
<b>Exposure to caustic/nox/allerg subs NEC</b>	23	23	1.1
<b>Bodily reaction and exertion, UNS</b>	21	21	1.0
<b>Walking--without other incident</b>	21	21	1.0
<b>Fall onto or against objects</b>	18	18	0.8
<b>Repetitive placg/graspg/movg ob ex tool</b>	18	18	0.8
<b>Struck against stationary object</b>	17	17	0.8
<b>Contact with skin or oth exposed tissue</b>	17	17	0.8

**Table A-1**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621,622, and 623)**

Event Leading to Injury		Disabling Cases	
	Total	2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
Struck by rollg/slidg obj on floor/gnd	16	16	0.8
Struck by slipping handheld object	14	14	0.7
Squeezing/pinching/scratching/twisting	13	13	0.6
Contact with hot objects or substances	13	13	0.6
Repetitive motion, NEC	10	10	0.5
Exposure to caustic/nox/allerg subst UN	10	10	0.5
Struck by/slammed in swinging door/gate	10	10	0.5

**Table A-2**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621, 622, and 623)**

Source of Injury	Total	Disabling Cases	
		2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>Health care patient/resdt hlth care fac</b>	666	666	31.3
<b>Bodily motion/position of inj worker</b>	308	308	14.5
<b>Nonclassifiable</b>	169	169	7.9
<b>Floor of building</b>	158	158	7.4
<b>Bodily conditions of injured, ill workr</b>	103	103	4.8
<b>Ground</b>	33	33	1.6
<b>Parking lots</b>	32	32	1.5
<b>Health care and orthopedic equip, NEC</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>Other sources, NEC</b>	29	29	1.4
<b>Beds, bedding, mattresses</b>	28	28	1.3
<b>Bags, sacks, totes</b>	27	27	1.3
<b>Cart, dolly, handtruck</b>	26	26	1.2
<b>Person--othr than injured/ill wkr, NEC</b>	23	23	1.1
<b>Highway vehicle, UNS</b>	23	23	1.1
<b>Boxes, crates, cartons</b>	21	21	1.0
<b>Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, UNS</b>	21	21	1.0
<b>Infectious and parasitic agents, NEC</b>	20	20	0.9
<b>Doors</b>	18	18	0.8
<b>Wheelchairs</b>	17	17	0.8
<b>Brooms, mops, and other cleaning tools</b>	13	13	0.6
<b>Automobile</b>	12	12	0.6
<b>Stairs, steps--indoors</b>	11	11	0.5
<b>Pots, pans, trays</b>	11	11	0.5
<b>Stairs, steps, UNS</b>	10	10	0.5
<b>Tables, worktables</b>	10	10	0.5
<b>Chairs</b>	10	10	0.5
<b>Sidewalks, paths, outdoor walkways</b>	10	10	0.5

**Table A-3**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621, 622, and 623)**

Nature of Injury		Disabling Cases	
	Total	2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>Sprains, strains, tears</b>	859	859	40.3
<b>Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back</b>	287	287	13.5
<b>Back pain, hurt back</b>	186	186	8.7
<b>Bruises, contusions</b>	172	172	8.1
<b>Traumatic inj &amp; disorders, UNS</b>	121	121	5.7
<b>Neurotic reaction to stress</b>	76	76	3.6
<b>Fractures</b>	71	71	3.3
<b>Nonclassifiable</b>	50	50	2.3
<b>Cuts, lacerations</b>	34	34	1.6
<b>Multiple symptoms</b>	25	25	1.2
<b>Carpal tunnel syndrome</b>	23	23	1.1
<b>General symptoms, NEC</b>	22	22	1.0
<b>Heat burns, scalds</b>	14	14	0.7
<b>Concussions</b>	11	11	0.5
<b>Abrasions, scratches</b>	10	10	0.5

**Table A-4**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621,622, and 623)**

Part of Body	Total	Disabling Cases	
		2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>Lumbar region</b>	349	349	16.4
<b>Multiple Body Parts</b>	230	230	10.8
<b>Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS</b>	193	193	9.1
<b>Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula</b>	172	172	8.1
<b>Knee(s)</b>	149	149	7.0
<b>Body Systems</b>	142	142	6.7
<b>Wrist(s)</b>	89	89	4.2
<b>Thoracic region</b>	72	72	3.4
<b>Ankle(s)</b>	58	58	2.7
<b>Neck, exc internal loc of dis/disorders</b>	55	55	2.6
<b>Finger(s), fingernail(s)</b>	47	47	2.2
<b>Hand(s), except finger(s)</b>	40	40	1.9
<b>Foot(feet), except toe(s), UNS</b>	40	40	1.9
<b>Multiple upper extremities locations NC</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>Hip(s)</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>Chest, exc internal loc of dis/disorder</b>	27	27	1.3
<b>Nonclassifiable</b>	26	26	1.2
<b>Arm(s), UNS</b>	26	26	1.2
<b>Elbow(s)</b>	26	26	1.2
<b>Eye(s)</b>	23	23	1.1
<b>Upper arm(s)</b>	22	22	1.0
<b>Head, UNS</b>	21	21	1.0
<b>Forearm(s)</b>	19	19	0.9
<b>Abdomen-exc internal loc of dis/disordr</b>	19	19	0.9
<b>Multiple back regions</b>	18	18	0.8
<b>Lower leg(s)</b>	17	17	0.8
<b>Lung(s), pleura</b>	16	16	0.8

**Table A-4**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621,622, and 623)**

Part of Body	Total	Disabling Cases	
		2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
Leg(s), UNS	14	14	0.7
Multiple trunk locations	13	13	0.6
Brain	12	12	0.6
Multiple lower extremities locations NC	11	11	0.5
Hand(s) and finger(s)	11	11	0.5

**Table A-5**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621, 622, and 623)**

***Age of Injured  
Worker***

AGE	Frequency	Percent
Under 19	31	1.46
19-24	214	10.05
25-29	208	9.77
30-34	204	9.58
35-39	218	10.24
40-44	309	14.51
45-49	293	13.76
50-54	285	13.39
55-59	206	9.68
60+	161	7.56

**Table A-6**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621, 622, and 623)**  
**Length of Service of Injured Worker**

Length of Service of Injured Worker	Total	Disabling Cases	
		2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>Unknown</b>	26	26	1.2
<b>Under 1 Year</b>	668	668	31.4
<b>&gt; 1 but &lt; 2 Years</b>	319	319	15.0
<b>&gt; 2 but &lt; 3 Years</b>	179	179	8.4
<b>3-4 Years</b>	277	277	13.0
<b>5-9 Years</b>	319	319	15.0
<b>10-14 Years</b>	124	124	5.8
<b>15-19 Years</b>	106	106	5.0
<b>20 Years and Above</b>	111	111	5.2



Month of Injury	Total Number	Disabling Cases	
		2006 Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>	204		
<b>January</b>		204	9.6
<b>February</b>		194	9.1
<b>March</b>		176	8.3
<b>April</b>		154	7.2
<b>May</b>		171	8.0
<b>June</b>		191	9.0
<b>July</b>		171	8.0
<b>August</b>		170	8.0
<b>September</b>		184	8.6
<b>October</b>		205	9.6
<b>November</b>		155	7.3
<b>December</b>		154	7.2

County of Injury	Total Number	Disabling Cases	
		2006 Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>Androscoggin</b>	201	201	9.4
<b>Aroostook</b>	176	176	8.3
<b>Cumberland</b>	567	567	26.6
<b>Franklin</b>	25	25	1.2
<b>Hancock</b>	59	59	2.8
<b>Kennebec</b>	269	269	12.6
<b>Knox</b>	49	49	2.3
<b>Lincoln</b>	41	41	1.9
<b>Oxford</b>	58	58	2.7
<b>Penobscot</b>	283	283	13.3
<b>Piscataquis</b>	12	12	0.6
<b>Sagadahoc</b>	17	17	0.8
<b>Somerset</b>	82	82	3.9
<b>Waldo</b>	30	30	1.4
<b>Washington</b>	52	52	2.4
<b>York</b>	171	171	8.0
<b>Unknown or out of state</b>	37	37	1.7

**Table A-7**  
**2006 Maine Reported Workers Comp. Disabling Cases**  
**Health Care (Three-Digit NAICS Codes 621,622, and 623)**

Occupation of Injured Worker	Total	Disabling Cases 2006	
	Number	Number	Pct
<b>Total</b>	2,129	2,129	100.0
<b>*</b>			
<b>311012 Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants</b>	664	664	31.2
<b>291111 Registered Nurses</b>	270	270	12.7
<b>399021 Personal and Home Care Aides</b>	106	106	5.0
<b>372012 Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners</b>	92	92	4.3
<b>319099 Healthcare Support Workers, All Other</b>	92	92	4.3
<b>372011 Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners</b>	76	76	3.6
<b>311013 Psychiatric Aides</b>	70	70	3.3
<b>292041 Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics</b>	67	67	3.1
<b>292061 Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses</b>	38	38	1.8
<b>516011 Laundry and Dry-Cleaning Workers</b>	36	36	1.7
<b>352012 Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria</b>	33	33	1.6
<b>211093 Social and Human Service Assistants</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>999999 Unknown</b>	31	31	1.5
<b>311011 Home Health Aides</b>	27	27	1.3
<b>211029 Social Workers, All Other</b>	21	21	1.0
<b>434171 Receptionists and Information Clerks</b>	20	20	0.9
<b>319092 Medical Assistants</b>	19	19	0.9
<b>359011 Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender</b>	19	19	0.9
<b>292034 Radiologic Technologists and Technicians</b>	18	18	0.8
<b>Missing</b>	16	16	0.8
<b>439061 Office Clerks, General</b>	14	14	0.7
<b>499042 Maintenance and Repair Workers, General</b>	14	14	0.7
<b>292055 Surgical Technologists</b>	13	13	0.6
<b>292012 Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians</b>	13	13	0.6
<b>439199 Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other</b>	12	12	0.6
<b>436013 Medical Secretaries</b>	12	12	0.6
<b>292071 Medical Records and Health Information Technicians</b>	10	10	0.5
<b>291126 Respiratory Therapists</b>	10	10	0.5